Receipt 37384

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of:

E. Marlowe Goble

Serial No.:

09/970,559

Filing Date:

10/03/2001

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RECONSTRUCTING

A LIGAMENT

Group Art Unit:

3738

Examiner:

Javier G. Blanco

Attorney's Docket No.:

GOBLE-1

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

JAN 0 5 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 160700

Sir:

PETITION FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND

Applicant hereby petitions for a two (2) month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Official Action mailed July 7, 2003 with respect to the above-identified patent application, thereby extending the time for response from October 7, 2003 to December 7, 2003.

Applicant notes that inasmuch as December 7, 2003 falls on a Sunday, the response is actually due on Monday, December 8, 2003.

A check in the amount of \$210.00 is enclosed to cover the cost of the petition fee. This petition fee has been calculated on the basis of Small Entity status.

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In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this matter, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed for the convenience of the Office.

Thank you.

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON:

December 8, 2003

(DATE OF DEPOSIT)

James A. Sheridan

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

(SIGNATURE)

December 8, 2003

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

Respectfully submitted,

mes a. Shuridan 12/8/03

James A. Sheridan

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